

6. A method for compacting a diffuse gray edge, comprising the steps of:
The method according to claim 1

identifying an observation window within continuous tone image data, said
observation window including a target pixel; and
compacting vertical features within said observation window, wherein said
step of compacting vertical features comprises:
determining if said target pixel is within a diffuse vertical edge;
shifting gray from a first pixel (A) that is not adjacent to a saturated
pixel to a second pixel (B) that is adjacent to a saturated pixel; and
updating a pixel value in response to said shifting step.

8. A method for compacting a diffuse gray edge, comprising the steps of:
identifying an observation window within continuous tone image data, said
observation window including a target pixel;
compacting horizontal features within said observation window;
compacting vertical features within said observation window; and
compacting corner features within said observation window
The method according to claim 1, wherein:

said step of compacting horizontal features modifies said target pixel
and a first pixel adjacent said target pixel by shifting gray between
said target pixel and said first pixel when said target pixel is within a
diffuse horizontal edge;

said step of compacting vertical features modifies said target pixel and
a second pixel adjacent said target pixel by shifting gray between
said target pixel and said second pixel when said target pixel is
within a diffuse vertical edge; and

said step of compacting corner features modifies a pixel within said
compaction window when said target pixel is within a diffuse
corner.

10. A method for compacting a diffuse gray edge, comprising the steps of~~The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of compacting corner features comprises:~~

identifying an observation window within continuous tone image data, said observation window including a target pixel;
determining if said target pixel is within a diffuse corner;
shifting gray from a first pixel (A) that is not adjacent to a saturated pixel to a second pixel (B) that is adjacent to a saturated pixel; and
updating a pixel value in response to said shifting step.